

Jamie Anderson Singer - Songwriter - Parking Lot Attendant

Touring nationally since the eighties, Jamie Anderson has played her warm and witty songs in hundreds of coffeehouses, concert halls, colleges and festivals all over the U.S. She's released seven albums including her newest, **A Promise of Light**, produced by Kiya Heartwood (Wishing Chair).



Her music has been featured on the Dr. Demento radio show, Car Talk, and stations all over the world. Jamie loves being a full time musician, so she doesn't really park cars, but her mama said she should have something to fall back on.

Jamie's a confused folk singer who dabbles in several genres - witness the fun bluegrass romp of "Hurricane," the jazzy "Gone," and "Your Night Just Got More Interesting," an almost-pop number. For those who like their music political, there's "Beautiful," about body image, and "Felon," a less than kind look at North Carolina's weird laws. The title cut of **A Promise of Light** is a calming plea for peace; the disc even has a traditional folk tune, "Polly Vaughn,"

featuring a lovely fingerpicked guitar solo from Jamie. Even though her girlfriend says she should quit writing songs about food, "**A Little Chocolate**" is also on the disc:

**Sweet and smooth, so very nice
Like being in love but with a smaller price
It doesn't have to be real pure
Ain't nothin' wrong with me
A Little Chocolate won't cure**

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Jamie's dad is a country musician - a pretty painful thing for a teenager who would rather listen to Carole King and Carly Simon - but it did mean there were always guitars lying around the house. She taught herself to play while in high school and for the next few years played local coffeehouses, bars and at weddings. After the hundredth request for "Wedding Song," she decided to write her own songs. Jamie did her first national tour in 1987 because she needed to earn gas money to get to a music festival. She's been collecting tiny motel soaps ever since.

When Jamie isn't touring, she's taught songwriting, guitar and other classes at Duke University, arts centers, privately in Durham and at festivals all over the country. She has a chapter in *Songwriting and the Guitar*, a book that also includes Paul Simon, The Indigo Girls, Joni Mitchell and others. Jamie is a freelance writer whose articles and CD reviews have appeared in *Acoustic Guitar*,



photo by Robert Campell

SingOut! and more. In her spare time - she must have a clone -- Jamie is director for **Woman in Harmony**, an annual music camp in the mountains near Asheville, NC.

Laughter is a big part of Jamie's live performance. Her offbeat song intros and stories help keep the performance fun but don't be surprised when she delves into more serious issues. She's emceed at many events and twirls the baton badly, sometimes at the same time. She's also a bellydancer and former radio DJ, never at the same time.

Anderson's awards include Spotlight Artist of the Year (National Women's Music Festival, 2002), South Florida Folk Festival Finalist (2000 and 2003), Outmusician of the Year (2002), and others that only her mama cares about.

Jamie's expressive voice and personable stage manner is an asset to any stage. She loves to perform, just don't ask her to park any cars unless payment includes chocolate.